



NEWS RELEASE

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NEW WOMEN'S WEB SITE LAUNCHED BY SBA AND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

www.women-21.gov Brings Access to Federal Government Resources to Woman-Owned Businesses

WASHINGTON - Hector V. Barreto, administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration, and U.S. Secretary of Labor Elaine L. Chao today announced the launch of www.women-21.gov, a new Web site to help women small business owners deal with the ever-changing business climate and identify federal government resources for women.

"No business group in America is moving faster or more efficiently than women-owned businesses; they are doing a fantastic job contributing to our economy and creating jobs," said Administrator Barreto. **"But navigating the government's information network is one of the hardest things a business owner has to do, and even the fastest-moving businesses need to stop and ask for directions now and then. Now, when women entrepreneurs want to stop and ask for directions that will help them get through the maze of government, they can make one stop and ask at www.women-21.gov. By doing so, they will discover the answers and resources they need to keep moving forward and continue setting the pace for all of America's entrepreneurs."**

The Web site is an outgrowth of Women Entrepreneurship in the 21st century, a series of women's summits to discuss the increasing role of women in the American economy and the concerns about roadblocks to growth, long-term viability and their financial health. Highlights of the Web site feature up-to-date information on key issues for women entrepreneurs, including:

- Access to capital
- Healthcare for small businesses
- Government procurement and contracting opportunities
- Retirement security, and
- Technology

Building on the success of earlier outreach to women entrepreneurs, the next Women Entrepreneurship in the 21st Century conference will take place April 3 at the Pennsylvania Conference Center in Philadelphia. Participants can register online at www.women-21.gov. Participants will hear presentations and take part in question-and-answer sessions with public officials, business leaders and financial experts.

Women-owned businesses are driving the American economy by producing more and more jobs for American workers. Their numbers continue to grow at twice the rate of all U.S. businesses. There are 9.1 million women-owned businesses. They account for 38 percent of all businesses, employ 27.5 million workers and generate \$3.6 billion in revenues.